In the claims, please make the following amendments:

Claims 1-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): An apparatus for removal of hydrogen peroxide from spent pickle liquor used in a pickling process, said apparatus comprising a tank equipped with an inlet, an outlet, at least one vent, a heat source and an internal baffle.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said tank is of sufficient capacity to accommodate a quantity of pickle liquor solution generated by the pickling process.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein said tank is sized and configured so that the pickle liquor residence time in said tank is from about 30 minutes to about 60 minutes.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein said tank is sized and configured so that the pickle liquor residence time in said tank is about 45 minutes.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the heat source for said tank is steam injection.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the heat source for said tank is at least one immersion heater.